

CRACKLIN' STATIC



SIERRA NEVADA Amateur Radio Society

Serving the Amateur Radio Community since April 16, 1968

<http://www.snars.org>

RENO, NEVADA

MARCH 2016

----PRESIDENT'S VOICE----

Anthony Marcin, W7XM

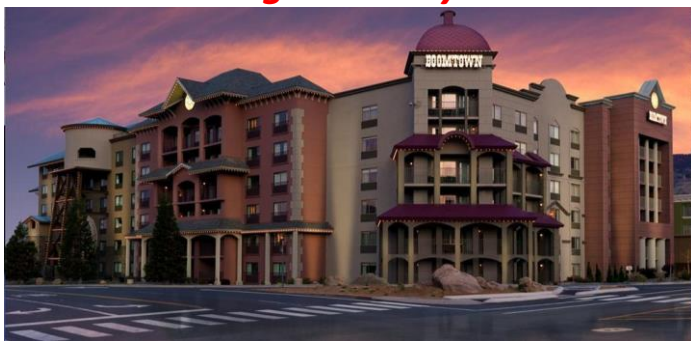
At the February board meeting we discussed the future of SNARS and more specifically the service/coverage area we should be focusing on. Over the last few years we have had major growth to the organization along with dealing with several issues with our repeater systems. As we start this new year we are focusing on building our infrastructure by connecting each of our sites via microwave to provide flexibility and more stability when connecting our systems regardless of being analog or digital. With the backbone infrastructure being one of our focuses we also need to provide guidance to the Technical Team as they look to maintain, rebuild and build new and existing sites. The direction will provide the "boundary" of where we should be placing / building systems and look to partner with other area organizations to help link or extend systems outside of what we call our primary "boundary" or coverage area. By looking and defining this will help our organization to focus.

So I ask you as a member of SNARS your input on what our "boundary" or service area should be. We currently have systems that reach out to Winnemucca in the east, south to Yerington Area, north to Pyramid and West as far as Sacramento with the 147.150 system. Please share your ideas by sending me an email at w7xm@snars.org or by dropping by at the club meetings to express your ideas and recommendations of what we should consider our "boundary" service area.

Hope to see you all this weekend for our Monthly breakfast meeting at Boomtown.

Tony, W7XM

SNARS meeting Saturday March 5



8:00 AM Boomtown Casino Hotel, I-80 exit 4, Verdi NV, in the Banquet/Conference Center. See page four for full details on breakfast etc.

We will talk about the SNARS committees we have and also invite people to join them.



SNARS, P.O. Box 7727, Reno, NV 89510

Membership: \$40 Individual, \$50 Family

OFFICERS 2015

President.....Tony Marcin.....W7XM
Vice President.....Don Seibert.....N2MOO
Treasurer.....Bill Jones.....AE7OX
Secretary.....Judy Carlson.....KE6GIW
Director.....Steve Johnson.....KS6A
Director.....John Byerly.....N7ROJ
Director.....Jim Shepherd.....W6US

STAFF 2016

By Laws Review Committee.....vacant
Club Public Information Officer.....vacant
Control Operators Manager.....W7DED
Cracklin' Static Editor.....WB2AWQ
Meeting Greeters.....AE7OX
History Archivist.....KF7KTC
Station Licensee for KR7ENO.....WB2AWQ
Control Operators FOR KR7ENO.....WB2AWQ
Station Licensee for W7TA.....KE7VSR
Tech Committee Chair.....N7ROJ
Chief VE Examiner.....NN7K
Membership Chairman.....N2MOO
Program Chairman.....vacant
Web MasterW7XM
Facebook Page Administrator.....W7XM
Events (ARES) Coordinator.....WA6MTY
Education Team Chair.....W7XM
Reno Ham Swap.....NB6C
Field Day Co-chair.....KS6A
Field Day Co-chair.....W6US
Audit.....vacant
Noon Net.....KS6A

CRACKLIN' STATIC PUBLICATION

E-mail..... holden7471@msn.com

Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size or line spacing may be required in order to publish this Newsletter.

Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

Cracklin' Static is e-published in Adobe PDF Format. It may be enjoyed at the SNARS web site.

Amateur Radio License Testing 2016

SNARS, Third Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. Testing will be at the REOC located at 5195 Spectrum Blvd., be there at 9 AM sharp! Bill Nichols... NN7K
SIERA CLUB: Silver State Charter High School, 788 Fairview Dr, Carson City..... 3rd Saturday of January, March, May, July, September, and November

.....Dale Anderson, kv7s@charter.net

Elko Area: Third Saturday of January, April, July, October.

11:00AM, Northeast Nevada Regional Hospital, 2001 Errecart Boulevard, Elko, NV w7gk_1@yahoo.com

SNARS Repeater System Frequencies

I-80-Mt Rose Linked System (W7TA)

Reno, Sparks, Carson City (Ophir Peak) 443.075 + 123.0 Normal Operation
Lovelock, Black Rock Desert (Toulon Peak) 146.925 - 123.0 Normal Operation
Winnemucca 146.670 - 123.0 Normal Operation
Reno, Sparks (Virginia Peak) 147.030 + 123.0 Normal Operation
Carson City, Tahoe, Truckee (Mt Rose Knob) 147.150 + 123.0 Normal Op
Reno, Sparks, North Valleys (Peavine Peak) 147.210 + 100.0 Normal Operation
Yerington, Wellington (Lobdelle Peak) 444.875 + 100.0 Normal Operation

IRLP/EchoLink System (W7TA)

Reno, Sparks (GSR) 147.300 + 123.0 Connected to/Status:

Standalone Systems, Ragchew Repeaters (W7TA)

Reno, Sparks 52.580 - 114.8 Normal Operation
Reno, Sparks, Carson City, Dayton (Ophir Peak) 147.390 + 100.0 Normal Op
Reno, Sparks 927.1125 - 114.8 Normal Operation
Reno, Sparks, Carson City (Ophir Peak) 146.610 - 123.0 Not Linked, off air

Digital/APRS Systems (W7TA)

Reno, Sparks, Carson City (Ophir Peak) 145.050 - RNO Normal Operation
Carson City, Tahoe, Truckee (Mt Rose Knob) 145.050 - ROSE Normal Op
Lovelock, Black Rock Desert (Lobdelle peak) 144.390 - TOULON Normal Op

Portable Repeaters (KR7ENO)

Portable System 147.000 - 123.0 Special events only

DMR Digital Mobile Radio

Reno-Sparks 444.925 + CC1 DMR System
Reno, Carson, Dayton 444.825 + CC1
Lake Tahoe, Truckee 443.925 + CC1

C4FM Digital Repeater – YAESU OFF THE AIR

D-Star (N7NDS) NARRI

Reno-Sparks-Carson (Mt Davidson) 444.625 + (Module B)
Reno-Sparks-Carson (Mt Davidson) 145.175 - (Module C)

THE NAME OF THE GAME

By Jim Shepherd W6US nvjims@gmail.com

REPEATER SYSTEMS

Virtually every new ham now a days makes their first contact on a repeater. They get the frequency and tone programmed into their new radio and they are on the air, greeted by a courtesy beep, a kerchunk, and possibly a CW string. Hopefully a live operator will answer them back, and they are on their way to becoming a member of our community. To most, the repeater is a mysterious black box on a high point tended to by the more technical inclined members of the club.

Actually a repeater is a system, a combination of parts that work together to relay your signal. It starts with an antenna. Mountaintops are a hostile environment, and a homebrew or 'ham' quality antenna will not survive hundred mph winds and a coating of ice, so we use special ones that are designed to survive. It has to be mounted to something that allows it to radiate in the needed directions and is also up to the job of keeping it in the air in spite of the weather. Usually the site owner has provided a suitable tower for this purpose.

Junk box RG-58 coax may do the job for you antenna at the house, but 'hardline' is used on the hill. The two most popular types are 1/2" for 6 and 2 meters, and 7/8" for the higher frequencies. Hardline is basically copper tubing filled with foam and a center conductor. It is very low loss and when properly secured with the proper mounting brackets will last for years. Ground straps are attached to the tubing at various places and bolted to a grounding system.

On some mountaintops, a number of repeaters are combined on to a single antenna system. In this case usually all the transmitters are on one antenna, and all the receivers are on another. Our Toulon repeater is on a combiner system. For this article, only a single repeater on an antenna will be described.

Once the hardline reaches the bottom of the tower and the last ground has been attached, it goes through an 'entry panel' into the repeater building or shelter. A connector is installed, and a lightning arrestor is attached. These are referred to as 'Polyphasers' which is the brand name of one of the more popular units. A jumper of 'superflex' hardline then takes the signal path to the duplexer.

A duplexer is a special filter that will allow the transmitter and the receiver to be active and attached to the same antenna. It keeps the high power of the transmitter (50-100 watts) from going into the receiver. They usually are made of large 6" or bigger tubing with the usual arrangement for our radios being 3 'cans' for transmit and 3 cans for receive. At this point the signals split with one going to the receiver and the other carrying the transmit power.

Depending on the 'noise' at the site, there may be a bandpass filter on the receive line that only lets the desired frequency make it to the receiver's front end. Since this attenuates the signal, it is only used if necessary. The receiver usually has good sensitivity and selectivity for the frequency that you transmitted from your radio. It converts the RF to audio which is filtered and then provides that audio and any control signals (ctcss, DTMF, COR) to the Controller.

The Controller is the brain of the repeater. It takes the decoded ctcss and squelch signals and uses them to turn on the transmitter. It takes the audio, sets the levels, and sends it to the correct output ports like the linking transmitter, any IP or wireline circuits, and, most importantly, the repeater transmitter. The controller also has timers that control the broadcasting of the CW or voice ID, and shuts off the transmitters if the signal has lasted too long.

Once the controller has decided that the receiver is hearing a proper signal, the transmitter fires up. Since repeaters have a high duty cycle, they are built to withstand putting out their rated power continuously. The power amplifier usually has a massive heatsink and even fans to keep it cool. In most cases, the ctcss tone is added back to the audio signal and the total deviation is set for proper levels.

The signal now goes through a 'circulator', a three port unit that only lets the signal go out through the filtering and to the antenna. Any reflected power out there or other frequencies from higher power stations like commercial radio stations is routed off to a dummy load. When the antenna finally breaks (notice I said 'when', not 'if') the high SWR reflected power is also routed to that dummy load protecting the power amplifier in the transmitter.

The RF now goes to a bandpass filter that strips any harmonics off of the transmitter's signal to prevent interference problems, and then it enters the transmitter connection of the duplexer to allow it to be sent up the hardline to the antenna and out to all stations in range. All of the inside equipment is mounted in a rack or cabinet to make a neat installation. All equipment and the rack are grounded back to the single point ground buss to help keep it free of lightning damage.

The repeaters can be linked by radios or networks to make wide area repeater systems like our Lobdell-Rose-

Peavine-Virginia Peak-Toulon-Winnemucca system, or the DMR network. This will extend the range, but it takes time to get all that equipment turned 'on' to transmit your signal, that is why you are asked to key up, wait a couple of seconds and then talk on these linked systems.

The Tech Team will be scheduling some work parties on the mountaintops this summer. It will be a good opportunity to help the club maintain the repeaters and actually see the equipment. Come join us for some fun on the hill!

MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER FOURTEEN

PART 97 --- Questions and Answers to the FCC

Q. Our club holds a weekly swap net on the local repeater. Is that legal?

A. Part 97.113 (a) (3) says in part "Amateur operators may, however, notify other amateur operators of the availability for sale or trade of apparatus normally used in an amateur station, provided that such activity is not conducted on a regular basis."

So swap nets on the air are legal, but with a couple of considerations. A swap net is intended to function as a platform for hams to communicate that they have equipment available for sale. Note the wording of 97.113(a) (3) where it states "notify of availability for sale or trade." This means it is legal to list (announce) equipment that is for sale, but nothing more. You should not negotiate the terms of the sale over the air. Also, a person who operates a commercial business involved in selling ham gear should not use a swap to advertise equipment available for sale, even if it is used equipment.

Weekly nets on the SNARS repeater systems

Western Nevada Noon net (daily, 12:00 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

The Morning Net (Monday – Friday at 10:00 AM)

147.300 + 123.0

Bishops Storehouse Net (Monday nights at 9:15 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

North Western Nevada ARES Net (Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

State SATERN Net (Tuesday nights at 8:00 PM)

147.300 + 123.0

State SKYWARN Net (Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

Northern Nevada Preppers Group Net (Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

State ARES Net (Thursday nights at 7:00 PM)

147.300 + 123.0

SNARS New Ham Net (Sunday afternoons at 12:00 PM)

147.030 + and 147.150, +, PL 123.0, and 147.210 + and 444.875+, PL 100.0

THE SNARS NOON NET

The Noon Net, formerly the New Hams Q&A Net on 147.030 + and 147.150, +, PL 123.0, and 147.210 + and 444.875+, PL 100.0 . The net is held weekly at 1200, every Sunday afternoon. The purpose of this net is a Q&A and information net for newly licensed hams and all hams wishing to ask question about different aspects of Ham Radio. It will give new hams in particular a venue for getting on the air in a controlled net moderated by a ham with more experience. The net will be open to any interested ham. Questions will be answered and discussed by the more experienced hams listening on the Net.



We are Ham & HiFi, and would like to take this opportunity to reach out to all SNARS members and introduce ourselves. We've been in Sparks since June of 2014, and we've met many of you at various swap meets or at one of our occasional Open House events. If we haven't had the chance to meet yet, we urge you to read on and learn more about who we are and what we do. Essentially, we deal in *used* electronic equipment.

Approximately 75% of our inventory is related to amateur radio, but varies widely in scope. We buy our equipment directly from individuals, so each item we get in is unique. We get a lot of nice tube equipment such as Collins, Drake, and Hallicrafters. At the same time, we periodically have newer equipment that you might find in a current HRO catalog. The main thing to keep in mind is that our inventory is constantly changing, and you never know what will be coming into the shop in a week or two.



In addition to a wide variety of ham gear, we also sell tubes for amateur radio and high fidelity audio equipment and projects. We have several thousand tubes here at the shop, so if there's anything in particular you need, we likely have it. I'll note that not all of our tubes are sorted, so if you are looking for a particular tube there may be some searching involved, but you are certainly more than welcome to have a look.

As we mentioned in a previous SNARS publication, we hope to soon stock everyday items that a ham may need. This includes basic items such as coax cable, connectors, dipole antennas, switches, etc. We are working hard to

find suppliers on these items, and hope to have an update on our progress soon. If you have any ideas of items that you would like to see stocked, please get in touch with us. We would love your input!

Don, W7SSB, plans on attending most of the SNARS monthly breakfast meetings. He'll be happy to tell you what's new at the shop and announce any upcoming events, and if you have interest in coming down to browse the shop he'll be happy to meet you after the meeting has concluded.



Don W7SSB at the repair bench with an Icom M710

Lastly, as I mentioned above, we buy nearly all of our inventory directly from individuals (hams, audiophiles, collectors, etc). We do a lot of advertising through mail and publications such as Electric Radio, but word-of-mouth referrals are always deeply appreciated. With that in mind, we are happy to give a referral fee to any SNARS member who helps us find estates or collections. The referral can be made to you directly, or given as a donation to SNARS. If interested, please call us direct for more information.

Thank you for your time, and we hope to see you soon.

SOME FIRST IMPRESSIONS by WB2AWQ

Can you say "Like a kid in a candy store"? That's what I felt walking into Ham & HiFi last week. If you're expecting a nice neat retail setup, with lots of shiny new stuff begging to follow you home, sorry. BUT....if you're like me, and drool over some nice piece of vintage gear, especially something you couldn't afford as a kid when you just got your license, or salivate at the sight of myriad radio parts, maybe something you really need to

complete that restoration you've been working on, this is the place to be!

On opening the door, I walked into a room with boxes of radio tubes waiting to be tested. Adjacent to that was a room where our own Steve Johnson, KS6A, was doing just that! Shelves piled with cataloged, tested and boxed tubes. A hollow state guy's dream.



Steve KS6A hitting the tube tester

In the main room, taken up mainly with several rows of shelving containing an amazing array of older radio gear, Don W7SSB was working on one of the Icom M710 HF Marine radios he had with him at the January meeting. They've gone through dozens of these radios, rugged, designed for harsh commercial duty, and mostly needing little to bring them to Amateur-level use. Don says most just need a few burnt out light bulbs changed, etc., in addition to opening them up to cover the Ham bands. What a nice radio – 1.6 to 29.9 Mhz, SSB, AM, CW, RTTY, with several power levels up to 150W PEP.



The ICOM M710 lit up

They also have a nice stock of Tentec RX330 professional receivers, should you want one of the best available. The RX330 was used in many commercial HF applications ranging from Maritime shore station use to military and other point-to-point remote controlled operations.

Now I must tell you, if you're expecting typical flea market junk pricing on the goods here, you're in for a

disappointment. However, from the perspective of someone who often buys parts, and an occasional radio on line, I can tell you that the prices, considering the general condition of the merchandise, backed up by the knowledge of the people who run this operation, are well worth the "buy-it-now" ebay price you will pay. Plus you pay no shipping! And everything they have for sale is on a computer inventory, no second guessing on whether or not they have the items you need.



Used radio parts, carefully identified and cataloged



Microphones (yes those are Astatic D-104s!)

Upshot, this is one professional and technically savvy operation, and it's right here in Sparks! A very unique store, right in our backyard. If you want to see some of the stuff they have for sale, both radios and tubes/parts, visit:

<http://stores.ebay.com/vintageaudiotubesandequipment/i.html?rt=nc&pgn=1&ipg=48>

SNARS 2016 FIELD DAY UPDATE

Mark your calendars for the annual ARRL Field Day event being held on June 25th and 26th this year. Last year we came in second in the state with the Reno QRP group taking first place, and we were 12th in the nation for the 7A category. This year Jim Shepherd W6US and I will be sharing organizing responsibilities for the event. Our Field Day site will be located at Washoe Lake State Park once again this year, but the group area has already been reserved for the weekend by another group so we will be moving our site to the pavilion near the equestrian arena. This pavilion is smaller than the group pavilion that we used last year, but there is a much larger parking area to accommodate RV's of any size.



We will still have access to a restroom with running water and a covered cooking area with water and electricity. The area is not as secluded as the group area we used last year, so we will probably be getting much more interest from passing park visitors



. I am including a few pictures of the pavilion in this newsletter, and I will be providing many more pictures of the area at the next SNARS membership meeting on Saturday March 5th. There are no high trees near the pavilion, so we will have to be creative with our antennas. Jim will be bringing his mobile 100' tower and we will be able use it for some antenna support. The pavilion site will be available for our use from Thursday,

June 23rd until the afternoon of Sunday June 26th so we should have plenty of time for set-up.



To get to the park, take the first 395 freeway exit North of Carson City onto East Lake Boulevard. Travel a couple miles North on East Lake Boulevard to the same park entrance we used last year on the West side of the road. There is a \$5 fee to enter the park, but if you are over 65 you can purchase a \$30 senior citizen season pass for Nevada State Parks. This pass will be good in all parks in the state of Nevada for the entire year including camping fees and boat launch fees. Once you have paid your fees, make a right hand turn towards the equestrian area (instead of left towards the group pavilion site) and travel about ½ mile to the end of the road at the equestrian pavilion.



We want to encourage everyone to become involved in Field Day this year. Even if you are a new operator or have never experienced Field Day before, we will need your help and your enthusiasm. If you have never experienced contesting before and would like to try it, we will have a seat for you behind a mike or key. Even if you just want to come and enjoy the ambiance and comradery, we want you there. A sign-up sheet for participants will be passed around at the March 5th membership meeting, so be sure to get your name on it.

If you have any questions, drop me an email at KS6A@sbcglobal.net 73, Steve Johnson KS6A

FUN STUFF FOR MARCH

Looking for some excitement on the bands during the winter blahs? There's something for everyone on the air! Some of the more popular or interesting ones:

3/5 0000 to 3/6 2359 1.8-28 **ARRL International DX Contest**, SSB Ph www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

3/9 2300 to 3/13 2300 7-14 **AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Test CW** www.antiquewireless.org

3/12 1800 to 3/13 1800 1.8-50 **QCWA QSO Party CW** Ph Dig www.qcwa.org/2016-qso-party-rules.pdf

3/26 0000 to 3/26 2359 1.8-144 **FOC QSO Party CW** www.g4foc.org/qso-party

3/26 0000 to 3/27 2359 1.8-28 **CQ WW WPX Contest**, SSB Ph www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm

For a full list of contests, visit:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2016/February%202016.pdf>

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NAME THAT RIG



(Answer on pg 9)

SNARS CALENDAR

New Hams Workshop – SNARS
Wednesday, March 2nd, 6:00 PM
Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center,
5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, Nevada 89512

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase! Some of the better DX coming up in March:
Mar02 to Mar18 Sri Lanka **4S7**

Mar03 to Mar15 Marquesas **TX7EU**

Mar04 to Mar13 Equatorial Guinea **3C7GIA**

Mar04 to Mar16 Uganda **5X1XA**

Mar08 to Mar15 Swaziland **3DA0**

Mar10 to Mar26 Vietnam **3W2BR**

Mar15 to Mar26 Cocos Keeling **VK9CK**

Mar18 to Apr 21, Mayotte **FH**

Mar20 to Apr10 Heard Isl **VK0EK**

Visit <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> for current info and full lists!

SNARS monthly meeting (breakfast!)
Saturday, March 5th, 8:00 AM
Boomtown Casino Hotel, I-80 exit 4, Verdi NV

Technician Class Spring 2016 Info – Registration
Tuesday, March 8th 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Class runs for 3 weeks, Tues and Thurs
Boomtown Casino Hotel, I-80 exit 4, Verdi NV
Info see: <http://snars.org/tech-class/>

Technical Committee Meeting - SNARS
Wednesday, March 9th, 2016 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM PDT
Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center,
5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, Nevada 89512

Board of Director's Meeting - SNARS
Wednesday, March 16th, 2016 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center,
5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, Nevada 89512

DMR Workshop – SNARS
Saturday, March 19, 2016 - 10:00 AM
Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center,
5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, Nevada 89512

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club presents:

Hamfest 2016

Saturday, March 12, 2016

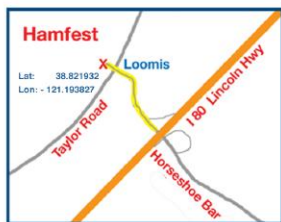
Historic Loomis Train Depot

First swap of the Year!

Drawings, Free Parking, Great Seller spots, Food & drink
Last year was a success, 2016 will be even bigger and better
Adding equipment demos, commercial vendors
more info at: w6ek.org



California (Loomis) — Mar 12 **DFHRTV**
7:30 – 11 AM. Spr: Sierra Foothills ARC. Historic
Loomis Train Depot Plaza, 3640 Taylor Rd. Tl:
145.43, 223.86 (both 162.2 Hz). Adm: Free.
www.w6ek.org.



Directions:

Located Northeast of Sacramento or
Southeast of Auburn, off Interstate 80.

Loomis Exit off I80 - Horseshoe Bar Road
Go NNW to the Taylor Road stoplight.

Follow Signs to Buyer's parking.

Seller's go straight at the stoplight, then
turn into the Seller's parking area.

Talk in on W6EK/r 145.430 pl 162.2Hz

CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest

Robert	Cocanour			K7BIM
Corban	Cocauour			KG7TMV
Jeffrey	Kinsman			KL2NL

Membership Stats

310 TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS as of
February 28, 2016

Technicians	106	34%
Generals	85	27%
Advanced	10	3%
Extra	89	29%

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD WRITERS

Do you have an interesting radio-related article you'd like to see published in Cracklin Static? Proud of your shack, and have some photos of it? Built a nice piece of gear or accessory for your station? A colorful QSL card? We'd love to include your work in Cracklin Static! See an error in Cracklin Static? You can contact me (WB2AWQ) at holden7471@msn.com, or call me at 846-6820 (cell) to discuss! This is YOUR newsletter!.....73, Howie

NEVADA STATE CONVENTION

Set for April 29, 30, May 1, 2016 - Las Vegas, NV.

Info: <http://nvcon.org>

WELCOME NEW SNARS MEMBERS!

First	Last	Middle	Suffix	Call
Jim	Cain			KC7ZCH
Brian	Cain			KI7AYZ
Brian	Corty			KL2AV
William	Mayberry			K7WBM
Greg	Rodriguez			KE6NAU
Matthew	Wagner			KI7AMG
James	Washer			KG7HH

NAME THAT RIG (from pg 8)

Elecraft has become one of the most popular names in Amateur Radio equipment. Pictured is the K2/100 HF transceiver, a K2 with built-in 100W amp. The basic K2 first shipped in 1999, available in both kit and assembled versions. So popular is the K2 that it's still available today in both forms, with a whole bunch of accessory items still also available. The K2 has been recently upstaged by its bigger brother, the K3. Elecraft radios are widely known and desired for their crisp CW keying, solid audio both transmit and receive, excellent receiver specs, and superb reliability. And they're USA made! But they're not cheap..... Their website is worth a peek: www.elecraft.com

* * * * *

ARES NEWS

Expanded full calendar of ARES events requiring communications, including contact info

EVENT 2016	DATE	DATE END	SPONSOR/ORGANIZER	COORDINATOR	CONTACT
Reno 5000 -1	5/1/16		Dolan Auto Group	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtv@gbis.com
Silver State 50/50 race	5/20/16		SNARS	Ray W7TAP	w7tap@w7tap.com
America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride	6/5/16		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul McCaffee	paul.mcafee@att.net
Pony Express Re-Ride	6/15/16	6/25/16	SIERA		http://www.cvham.com/contact.php
FIELD DAY	6/25/16	6/26/16	SNARS		holden7471@msn.com
Reno 5000-2	6/26/16		Dolan Auto Group	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtv@gbis.com
Death Ride	7/9/16		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul McCaffee	paul.mcafee@att.net
Tahoe Rim Trail	7/16/16	7/17/16	WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtv@gbis.com
Round Valley Walk/Run	8/6/16		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
Running With the Bears	8/20/16		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
Reno 5000-3	8/28/16		Dolan Auto Group	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtv@gbis.com
Tahoe 200	9/9/2016	9/13/16	WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtv@gbis.com
Tour De Tahoe	9/11/16		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul McCaffee	paul.mcafee@att.net
Reno Air-Races	9/14/16	9/18/16	WC-ARES	Rick Russell KF7KEM	wa6mtv@gbis.com
Edible Pedal 100	9/18/16		Sunrise Rotary Club	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtv@gbis.com

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Board of Directors Meeting

February 17, 2016 - 6:00 PM

Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center

Board Room

5195 Spectrum Blvd, Reno

DRAFT MINUTES - To Be Approved on March 17, 2016

1. Call to order and roll call at 6:02 PM

Anthony Marcin, W7XM

Yes

Don Seibert, N2MOO

No

Judy Carlson, KE6GIW

No

Bill Jones, AE7OX

Yes

John Byerly, N7ROJ

No

Steve Johnson, KS6A

Yes

Jim Shepherd, W6US

Yes

2. Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of minutes of the January 20th Board of Director's Meeting. - Corrections: Tech team members not all listed. - 1st Motion: Steve Johnson, 2nd Motion: Jim Shepherd.- All Approved
- B. Approval of Agenda - 1st Motion: Steve Johnson, 2nd Motion: Jim Shepherd - All Approved

3. Reports

A. President's Report -

Provided an overview of Don's Condition. No other report presented.

B. Secretary Report

- a. Business Calendar Activities - Tony Marcin provided the Board with the yearly activity calendar. The calendar provides a roadmap of actions that must be completed each year.
- b. Change of Organization Type from Chapter 81 to Chapter 82 - Tabled for next meeting and will provide a draft for approval by the board for submission to the Secretary of State.

C. Membership Coordinator

- a. Membership Status - Report - 312 Members as of February 17, 2016.

D. Treasurer

- a. Financial Report
- b. Balances: Checking: \$9,414.94 Savings: \$3,241.71 Paypal: \$1,196.54 Emcomm: \$10,200.43

E. Technical Committee - Report

John Byerly was not present and was no report from the Technical Committee this month.

F. Control Operators / Trustee - Report

No report was submitted by Peter DeBay or Pat Sheehan.

G. Events

- a. Field Day -Discussion on the field day location for 2016. The location last year was not available but another location was selected for this year's field day event. Steve and Jim presented the new location which is just north of last year's. It was agreed that we reserve the location and pay the State Parks the usage fee of \$100.00. The location will be the Nevada State Park in Washoe Valley. 1st Motion: Jim Shepherd, 2nd Motion: Tony Marcin - All Approved
- b. NVCON 2016 - No other status.
- c. Ham Swap - Boomtown - Will work with Rob Dunbar on getting this confirmed for Boomtown the first weekend of May.

H. Education Team

- a. Spring/Summer Workshops - There will be a DMR Workshop and a New Hams Workshop along with the start of the Tech Class all in March. The DMR Workshop is scheduled for March 19th, New Hams March 2nd, and the Tech Class begins March 8th.

I. Noon Net

- a. Status - Steve reported the new format is working and the net operators are pleased with the current way things are going.

4. New Business

- A. CBridge Software License Purchase - Tony Marcin presented a purchase request for the CBridge license of \$695.00. The CBridge software allows for the DMR Repeaters to be managed from a central server. 1st Motion: Jim Shepherd, 2nd Motion: Steve Johnson - All Approved
- B. Open for agenda items
 - a. Space Station project - Tabled
 - b. Insuring SNARS equipment - Run list and approve by the board. - Tabled.

Ranchers Net - A New has begun and will be held each Saturday evening at 7:00PM on the SNARS linked systems. The net encourages those who are in the field of ranching to have a net to discuss topics related to ranching.

System Future - Tony Marcin asked the board to bring back at the March meeting a general idea of what What we want to do for the club. This includes activities and to look at our current service area and to decide where our boundary should be to help facilitate and to provide direction to the Technical Team for future expansion and maintenance of our systems.

4. Next Meeting

- A. March 16 2015 - Wednesday at 6:00PM - Washoe Regional Emergency Operations Center

6. Public Comments

- A. Open for Comments - No Public Comments.

7. Adjournment at 7:18 Bill, Steve